

Dear Medicare Beneficiary:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) administers the Medicare program. CMS is cooperating with the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ by providing them with a list of potential participants for a study that involves Medicare beneficiaries as well as others. Such studies will help the researchers learn more about diseases that affect Medicare beneficiaries.

You are one of approximately 39 million Americans with health insurance under the Medicare program. Your name was selected at random from a list of beneficiaries who reside in one of the following areas: \_\_\_\_\_. In a few weeks you will receive a letter from the study investigators. The letter will provide information that will help you determine whether you qualify for the study, and whether you want to participate.

You do not have to participate in this study. Your decision to participate or not will have no effect on your Medicare benefits. All information you and the other participants provide is completely confidential and is protected by the Privacy Act.

If you have questions about the study, please feel free to call Dr. XXXXX, the study's Principal Investigator, toll free at 1-800-555-5555. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

J. Ned Burford  
Privacy Officer